

Remarks/Arguments

I. Status of the Claims

In the final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-9, 11-19, 24 and 25 are pending, and rejected claims 1-6, 11-16 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

To expedite prosecution of the present application, this Supplemental Amendment cancels all of the rejected claims, i.e., claims 1-6, 11-16 and 24. These claims are canceled without prejudice to prosecute them in a continuation application.

Claims 10 and 20-23 were previously canceled in light of a restriction requirement.

The remaining claims, i.e., claims 7-9, 17-19, and 25, were indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter in the final Office Action. That is, the Examiner objected to these claims as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. To expedite prosecution of the present application, claims 7, 17 and 25 are amended herein to place them in independent form. Claims 8-9 and 18-19 depend, directly or indirectly, from newly independent claims 7 and 17, respectively. Therefore, these claims are now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claims 7-9, 17-19 and 25 are the only claims pending in the present application.

II. Duplicative Advisory Action

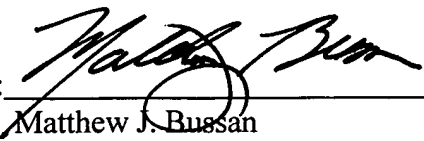
A first Advisory Action mailed March 28, 2005 lists Syed Zia as the Examiner. A second Advisory Action mailed March 29, 2005 lists Taghi T. Arani as the Examiner. The second Advisory Action is apparently duplicative of the first Advisory Action. This Supplemental Amendment is responsive to the controlling one of the Advisory Actions, irrespective of whichever one that may be.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims (i.e., claims 7-9, 17-19 and 25) are allowable (i.e., the Examiner indicated that they are directed to allowable subject matter) and that the present application should be passed to issue.

It is respectfully submitted that this Supplemental Amendment places the present application in condition for immediate allowance. If a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby encouraged to telephone the undersigned counsel at (847) 462-1937 to arrange for such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Matthew J. Bussan
Registration No.: 33,614
1048 Dove Way
Cary, Illinois 60013

Telephone: (847) 462-1937
Fax No.: (847) 462-1937